TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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DOOLITTLE: A GENERAL STAFF

We agree with Lieutenant-General James H. Doolittle, retired, that the time may be at hand when the United States would benefit from a sort of General Staff. We do not think a General Staff would threaten to take over the United States.

On the other hand, it is obvious that we need something, and this country has never experimented with a General Staff organization. As Gen. Doolittle envisions, a General Staff would include members of all the services and would exercise over-all supervision of the defense and military sphere.

A General Staff is a more homogeneous top-level establishment than that which comprises our complex top echelons today. It would be capable of more coordination, more efficient planning, direct control, and swift action.

General Doolittle has never been one to mince words or shrink from a formidible problem. He has done his country a service by speaking up for a General Staff, even though all those who remember the terrible results of two German Staffs might be inclined to throw up their hands in horror.

The times, however, call for ruthless prosecution and coordination of our defense effort. Survival may allow us to do no less.

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FRIDAY NIGHT STORE OPENINGS

The recent practice of most Appomattox business places of being open for business on Friday nights is evidence of the growing desire of local business men to cater to the needs and benefits of their customers, and is worthy of support. It calls for extra work assignments to remain open Friday nights, and the business people make this sacrifice to meet city competition and to serve their customers better. The plan will be continued through until Christmas, and we trust that the public will come out and shop around on Friday nights.

Time for Christmas shopping is short this year, due to the lateness of Thanksgiving Day. As of now there are just ten shopping days left!

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YOUNG AT NINETY

Most Americans think of Winston Churchill as a rather elderly gentleman, a bit too old for active political life. It is true that Sir Winston is eighty-three.

However, an event took place in London recently which will be heartening to elderly readers and which shows that one is only as old as he feels.

A U. S. Senator, Theodore F. Green, Democrat of Rhode Island, visited Sir Winston at the residence of the U. S. Ambassador in London. Green and Churchill talked seriously about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other problems facing the Western democracies. Churchill was alert and completely up-to-date on world affairs. In fact, Green reported that he was in even better shape than he appeared in 1956.

The point of this editorial is to show that Sir Winston is still able and active at eighty-three, and does not consider himself old. And, what is more, Senator Green is doing pretty well himself at his age. Senator Green is ninety.

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ON CHRISTMAS MAIL

The Post Office Department has suggested that its customers mail their packages and cards early this year. The department anticipates what may constitute a record volume for this Christmas season.

As the reader probably knows, if he will tie his local mail into one bundle and the out-of-town mail into another, it will speed service and delivery. The Post Office Department is eager for senders to remember to include delivery zone numbers in addresses.

If you have not already sent that Christmas present to your son, husband or brother overseas, you will be lucky if he gets it in time for Christmas. It might be advisable to send it by air at this late date.

The custom of sending Christmas cards is a widely accepted one and even people who see each other every day throughout the year are found mailing each other cards at Christmas time. Whether the custom will survive in this fashion or whether we will return to the old practice of sending cards to friends seen only occasionally, or live in a distant location, only time will tell.

And a final reason for early mailing: give the poor fellow who receives a card from you time to get one back in the mail to you—for no one in these times can anticipate all the sources of the cards to be received in the next few days!

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The trouble with many interviews is that a man rarely says what he thinks.

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The danger in ignorance is that so many of us have it without suspecting it.

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Some people say a lot by not talking much.

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The trouble with many individuals is that they worry too much about the sins of the other fellow.

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There will be friction in the United States as long as politicians promise minorities more than they can deliver.

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There is nothing you can do to make a man believe something that he doesn't want to believe.

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Discipline is something every child must learn, but the lesson requires a very wise teacher.

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Why is it that those who look young want to look old, and those who look old want to look young?

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Intelligent cooperation, with tolerant excusing the errors of others, explains most of mankind's progress.

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Most parents take credit for the good points of their children, but wonder where the bad ones originated.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lesson

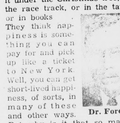
BY DR. KENNETH L. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Philippians 4. **Devotional Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24.

Live With Joy

Lesson for December 15, 1957

NOBODY wants to be unhappy. The trouble is, people look in the wrong places, or in the wrong ways, for happiness. They look for it under the Christmas tree, or at the race track, or in the taverns, or in books.



Dr. Foreman

They think happiness is something you can buy for and pick up like a ticket to New York. Well, you can get short-lived happiness, of sorts, in many of these and other ways. But why is it that so many old people not only look sour but are sour? Isn't it because they are disillusioned about happiness? It's something they chased but never caught; or if they caught it they could not long keep it. Happiness is always the big fish that got away.

For Now and for Always

Realizing this, many Christians have worked out another scheme in their minds. They figure that happiness, or joy, is not to be had in this life, only in the next. Indeed some have gone so far as to believe that the unhappier you are in this world, the more happiness will be piled on your plate at the heavenly banquet. And so they will even go to a lot of trouble to make themselves as miserable as possible, like doing without proper food and clothes, wearing hair shirts and heavy chains around their bodies, so earning happiness in the future life.

All this is quite off the Bible's beam. The worldly man is right in thinking happiness is to be found here and now. The hair-shirter who wakes up at 3 A.M. to beat himself with a whip while he sings a mournful Psalm is right in thinking real happiness ought to be a lasting thing, proof against pain and disaster. But the worldling is wrong in thinking happiness is the same thing as "kicks" and that just anyone can have it, and the hair-shirter is wrong in thinking you have to wait for death to usher you to the land of joy. The Bible tells of true joy, and it is something for now and for always.

The Quality of Joy

Bible religion, especially when we come to the New Testament, is a religion of joy. The very word "Gospel" means "Good news." One of our Lord's final words was "—that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be full" (John 15:11). Paul, in writing to his friends at Philippi, was writing in circumstances which could hardly be called cheerful. He was getting older and felt his age; he was not and perhaps never had been a completely well man; he was a poor he needed the help his friends sent him; and furthermore he was in jail. Yet it was precisely in those circumstances that he wrote the classic passage about joy, in Philippians 4, beginning "Rejoice in the Lord always."

A thing like joy never exists by itself. It is always in somebody. It is a name for the way some people are. True joy is woven in with life. So it can best be observed and studied not as if you could put it into a test-tube or under a microscope. You can see what joy is by watching the people who have it. When Paul talked about love, and joy, and faith, people paid attention, they did not throw the letters into the waste-basket, because they knew him and they knew he had lived these things before he wrote about them. They knew that in his life there was no fear, they knew that he had "learned the secret" in whatever state he was, to be content.

How to Have It

Paul did not "have" joy as you might have a parasol which you let out of its cage to play with now and then. He "lived" in joy, it was the atmosphere of his life. But with Paul, as with all Christians who have learned the same secret, joy did not come alone. The Christian's joy is a treasure beyond price.

If it is not the "joy of the Lord," it is not genuine. So it is always found only in those who have the Christian faith, and the Christian love. The selfish life, the loveless life, never can know what joy is. This is one great reason why true happiness—and the only true happiness is the joy of the Christian—cannot be found by chasing it. For the person who seeks joy for his own benefit is still selfish; and selfishness and joy are eternally strangers.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Washington Notes

GOP DINNERS

Republican fund - raising dinners will be held across the country on January 20, according to an announcement by the GOP National Committee. The dinners, billed as Republican Salute Dinners, will be held simultaneously, with President Eisenhower speaking at the dinner held in Chicago.

VENDING MACHINES

Sales via vending machines have risen to about two billion dollars this year from about 30 million dollars in 1923. Today there are an estimated 3,000,000 such machines in use, tended by 5,500 operators.

CLOTHING PRICES

The cost of clothing next year is expected to see a moderate increase over prices for this year, according to a recent Government forecast. Some boosts in prices are expected to offset increases in wage rates in the clothing industry.

MEAT MARKETERS

Marketing agencies got a larger portion of the retail price of meat in 1957 than in 1956, according to the Agriculture Department, which pointed out that the marketing margin — the difference between the farm value and the retail price — averaged 28.3 cents a point for choice beef compared with 26 cents in 1956. The margin on pork was said to run 27.2 cents compared with 25 cents in 1956.

CROP PRICE SUPPORTS

Only 13 crops, plus manufactured dairy products and a small quantity of wool, are held by the Agriculture Department under the government's price support programs. On the other hand, farmers and ranchers produce some 250 commodities, including cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry and eggs, as well as crops, fruits, and vegetables, which are not supported.

WESTERN RANGE

The Agriculture Department reports that winter range and pasture feed in the Western States is the best in fifteen years. Grazing conditions are good to very good over the entire 17-state area except for a narrow strip along the Canadian border and a few local areas in the Central Plains and Southwest.

POULTRY INSPECTION

The Agriculture Department will start inspection of poultry without cost at approved plants about May 1, 1958, under legislation passed by the last session of Congress. The purpose of the inspection service is to assure consumers a supply of clean, disease-free chicken meat. Inspection will be on a voluntary basis until January 1, 1959, — after that it will be mandatory.

FARM ECONOMICS

Farm products prices rose eight-tenths of one per cent to 242 per cent of the 1910-14 base in the month ended November 15, but the average of prices paid by farmers jumped to a record high of 298 per cent of the 1910-14 period — two points higher than the previous record of 296 in mid-October.

TRAFFIC DEATHS

Officials of the Nat... Council have estimated th... death toll may be 1,00... last year's total of 38,0... figures continue. Deat... ten months of the ye... 350 persons died on ... highways — about 800 ... during the same period ...

JOBLESS ROLLS

Unemployment rose ... jor production and ... tern during the fall ... most of the significant ... creases reported by area ... or concentrations in ... chinery and primary me... bor Department repo... fifths of the 149 major ... perienced increases in ... but generally the increa... said to be small to mo...

GOLDEN GLEA...

Much talk, much foo...

Curiosity
Does, no less than de...
Pilgrims make.

When wealth is lost;
When health is lost, ...
When character is lost ...

'Tis not what a man ...
exalts him, but what ma...
—Bolo...

Were I so tall to reach ...
Or grasp the ocean wi...
I must be measured by ...
The mind's the standard ...

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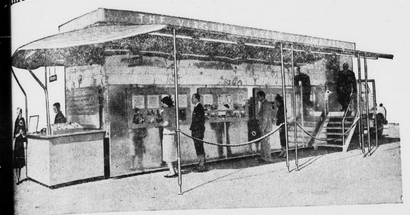
VEPCO VIRGINIA ELECTRIC and POWER COMPANY

...mobile to be in Appomattox December 9-13



...E TO VISIT APPOMATTOX. Pictured above is the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts' mobile ...ty shed, which will be in Appomattox, December 9-13. Containing examples of Egyptian art ...Virginia Museum and New York's Metropolitan Museum, the Artmobile will afford local residents ...opportunity to see examples of ancient art.

...ia Museum's Artmobile ...ed at the Appomattox ... School while in Appo... 9-13. Donated by Mil... ...ds and sponsored by ... Federation of Women's ... Artmobile continues its ...ate with a new collec... ...ent Egyptian art objects, ...ch are on loan from ...ylvanian Museum of Art in ...

...ter of the Artmobile, ...en characteristic Egypt... ...- terra cotta and deep ... — is arranged in three ...isplays works of art ...time from the Pre-Dynas... ...(4000-2200 B. C.) to ...century A. D. Colored ...of Egypt, installed in ...t, complement the exhibit.

...section — just inside the ... devoted to GODS AND ... The ancient Egyptians ...a multitude of cosmic ...definition and built vast temples dedicated to them. Two bronze statuettes, one of Osiris, King of the Dead and one of Isis, Queen of the Underworld, were made to be placed in the tombs as habitations for the spirits of these gods. Tomb walls were carved and often painted with pictures of the life and accomplishments of the dead person, as well as with religious scenes and prayers. An Old Kingdom low relief shows a noble, Methety, giving orders to his servants and speaking with his overseer. Another limestone relief is bordered with a prayer for a peaceful old age and a safe journey into the after-life.

In the Artmobile, just a step leads from the hallowed atmosphere of the gods into more worldly surroundings and LIFE ON EARTH. Here are displayed household utensils, jewelry and cosmetic accessories from ancient Egypt. The Egyptian's love of nature is revealed in a mascara box shaped like a lotus flower, in the leaf pattern on a small oil jar, in the shell design of a bronze hairpin. Egyptian craftsmen imitated the colors of nature, too, and faience (an inexpensive enameled earthenware) frequently is glazed in the blue-green o f the turquoise. An assortment of vessels, in a variety of materials, were made in simple shapes, allowing the qualities of the substances — the pattern of marble or the luster of alabaster — to predominate. Egyptians used the papyrus plant from the Nile marshes for paper. On sheets of papyrus, trained scribes wrote with wooden brushes the hieroglyphics, or picture-writing. A fragment of papyrus in the exhibition dates from the New Kingdom and is a part of the "Book of the Dead," a magical text put in the tomb to ward off the evil spirits.

ARTMOBILE ITEM

Pictured above is one of the many original ancient Egyptian art objects to be seen in the Artmobile during its visit to Appomattox from Dec. 9-13. The seated bronze cat, dating from ca. 500 B. C., was found in a tomb in Gagazig in Lower Egypt.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

(Editor's note: Here are the questions asked most frequently by Virginia farmers during the past week, as reported by county agricultural agents. Staff members of the VPI Agricultural Extensio Service and/or Experiment Station supply the answers).

Q. How can I benefit by entering my beef herd in the record-of-performance program?

A. By having accurate records on which bulls sire fast-growing calves you can increase profits, considerably. Say you could increase the average rate of gain of your calves by .2 pound per day. At seven months of age, this would mean $8.40 per calf, at 20c a pound. For a cattleman producing 100 feeder calves it ould amount to $840 a year. The differences carry over into the feedlot, too, for additional profits. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose. See your county agent for additional details.

Q. Ho can I prevent lard from becoming rancid?

A. To each 50 pounds of hot lard, add a three-pound can of homogenized vegetable fat — the vegetable shortening found on grocery shelves. Stir thoroughly and store in tight containers as usual. Lard keeps much longer if stored in small air-tight containers, such as 1-2 gallon jars or three-pound tin cans.

Q. When is the best time to treat alfalfa to control chickweed?

A. Now, during the dormant season.

Q. Why are so many peanut buyers off the market?

A. The moisture content of the peanuts is too high and buyers are waiting for them to dry.

Q. How late can wheat be seeded with a fair prospect of a reasonable yield? Wet weather has delayed seeding in many sections.

A. It is past the recommended seeding dates, and taking a chance if you seed now.

Q. Should I build another layer house and increase my poultry flock in view of the egg situation?

A. This will be an individual decision, calling for careful thought on the part of every poultryman. Egg producers are expected to have a more favorable year in 1958 than in 1957. Emphasis will be on quality. In the next decade, large, mechanized commercial egg operations will replace farm flocks. Lower production costs and improved efficiency will be necessary.

Q. What are some of the jobs I can do now in my farm woods?

A. Thin dense young stands for pulpwood. Plant forest seedlings. Release good young trees now growing under inferior trees. Clear and plant where lowgrade hardwoods now cover an area. Prepare a desirable seedbed before making a harvest cutting where natural reseeding is expected.

KNOW THE WEATHER

By E. H. Sims

Does the moon really exert an influence on crops? Should certain crops be planted according to the phases of the moon?

The belief that the moon affects the weather and that crops should be planted according to its phases is largely discredited today by astronomers — though many hold faithfully to the belief.

The moon does exert a powerful influence on the tides and on certain earthly functions, but it is not now thought to exert any appreciable influence on our daily weather.

The moon, interestingly, is the earth's only satellite Some of the other eight planets we know of have more than one satellite. Jupiter, the largest planet, has twelve moons, and three of the planets have no satellites.

A halo around the moon indicates rain is probably on the way.

OPPOSE INSURANCE FUND IN OLD DOMINION

Creation of an unsatisfied judgment fund to compensate motorists for damage caused for financially irresponsible motorists received much criticism this week.

John J. Wicker, Jr., of Richmond, said the state fund recommended by the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council (VALC) would actually invite and encourage irresponsible motorists to continue their use of the public highways.

Wicker said the mutual companies represented by the American Mutual Insurance Alliance "believe that the proposed state fund would be unsound, unjust and unsatisfactory."

The proposed plan would charge motorists who did not have liability insurance an additional $10 a year to operate their cars. Also, every insurance company doing business in Virginia would be forced to contribute an amount equal to one half of one per cent of their premium collections.

Wicker stated that this latter feature would make it necessary for insurance companies to raise their rates.

"Why should Virginians who pay their own insurance be saddled with these unjustifiable extra expenses?" he asked. "Mutual Insurance Companies do not feel that their policyholders should be forced to bear this extra burden."

Wicker said he was sure that the VALC had undoubtedly given careful consideration to the problems created by the irresponsible motorist. "However," he said, "the VALC report reveals its own serious doubts as to the proposed State Fund by its alternative recommendation of compulsory insurance."

He said that the Fund would put the State iself in the insurance business. He also challenged the VALC estimate that the premium tax and the extra $10 charge would be sufficient to pay out all claims with which the fund would be faced.

Additional opposition to the Fund came from the Virginia Association of Insurance Agents. "For an unsatisfied judgment fund scheme to be fair," the organization said, "the fee assessed an uninsured motorist should be sufficient to shoulder the full financial burden of the plan."

The insurance group said that if this is done, "the fee would then be as much or even more than the premium for proper and adequate automobile liability coverage."

Always

An economist who has looked it up, says no scheme of farm co-operation has lasted more than 20 years. Still there is succotash. —Los Angeles Times.

Usually

A joint checking account usually indicates co-operation — the husband deposits the money and his helpmate cheerfully draws it out. —Christian Science Monitor.

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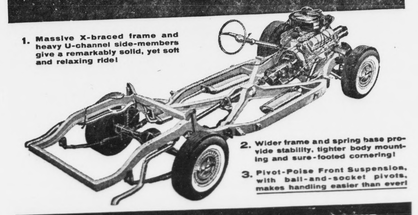

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